

NEWS RELEASE



MINNEHAHA CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT

**RILEY
PURGATORY
BLUFF CREEK**
WATERSHED DISTRICT



Contact:

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Applications Being Accepted for Master Water Steward Program

Do you want to protect clean water in a lake or stream you care about? Become a Master Water Steward! Applications are now being accepted for the program, which provides training on how to protect local waterways from pollution. Following the training, Stewards put their knowledge into action in their own communities.

When it rains, oil from cars, salt, fertilizer, litter and other debris flow off the landscape into nearby storm drains, which empty into local lakes and streams. Runoff is the number one threat to clean water and Master Water Stewards play a vital role in reducing its impact. By joining the growing ranks of these passionate and dedicated people, you can make a difference in keeping water clean and healthy.

The 13-session course, which runs from October 2016 through April 2017, is taught by top industry professionals and offers a network of like-minded peers. Stewards then build projects in their neighborhoods that prevent polluted rainwater from entering our lakes and streams and educate their neighbors on clean water issues. Past projects include raingardens, rain barrels, cisterns, water-permeable walkways and other clean water landscaping.

The one-time cost to enroll in the Master Water Stewards Program is \$200 per person, which covers course fees and field trips. Scholarships are available.

To qualify, applicants must live in a participating watershed district and attend an information session. The following information sessions are planned in the west metro:

5:30-6:30pm, Tuesday, August 23 at Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD), 15320 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka, MN 55345

5:30-6:30pm, Tuesday, August 23 at Nine Mile Creek Watershed District, 12800 Gerard Dr., Eden Prairie, MN 55346.

5:30-6:30pm, Tuesday, September 6 at MCWD

Additional information sessions are available. For more details and to apply, visit www.masterwaterstewards.org. The application deadline is September 15, 2016.

Questions can also be directed to the following:

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Erica Sniegowski, Nine Mile Creek Watershed District, 952-358-2276, esniegowski@ninemilecreek.org
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